

**Town of Maynard
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 -- Room 101, Town Hall

Vice Chair Dave Hull called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Members Present: Jane Audrey-Neuhauser, clerk; Mike Chambers; Brendon Chetwynd;
Lou Ann Cutaia; Dave Hull, Vice Chair; Rick Lefferts, Doug Moore, Treasurer

Members Absent: Peg Brown, Ariel Hoover

Also in attendance: No other persons were present.

The minutes from the October 24, 2007 CPC meeting were corrected and approved. The committee will ask Peg to file the minutes in the COA office.

Rick Lefferts, recently appointed by the BOS, was welcomed to the CPC and introductions were made.

Final proposals for funding which were received to date were distributed (Rail Trail, Alumni Field Irrigation Project, Coolidge Building Study). Additional proposals that are received by the Nov. 16th deadline will be distributed to CPC members by Dave and Peg.

CPC members will need to review the final proposals in preparation for the Nov. 28th meeting.

Member concerns:

Brendon had just received from John Curran approval to contact town counsel about the specific approved uses for recreational funds.

Inaccuracies in Villager article were addressed and Dave will bring the issue to Peg Brown for further clarification with the press.

CPC spending philosophy and goals for FY08 --

There was a general discussion about whether the CPC should be a saving vs. spending committee as it looks at this year and future planning.

Lou Ann Cutaia expressed her perspective that without the guarantee of matching funds from the state we should prioritize items based on urgency and focus only on those that "can't wait" or makes prudent financial sense to fund. She expressed concern that "whoever holds the money, holds the power" in reference to Conservation Commission's request to have the required 10% allocation transferred to the Maynard Conservation Fund.

There was a considerable discussion about the merits of giving (or not giving) undirected funds to a group with an emphasis on the possibility of quick reaction time on a future project. There was a discussion about how much detail and control the CPC wanted to have / or should have over every individual project and how much control is inherent in certain commissions based upon the laws which apply to certain boards, etc.

Doug Moore pointed out that in the next year there may be more projects competing for funds. He said that he would support spending money on housing but don't know how to encourage that. He pointed out that Stow has a very innovative program.

Dave Hull said that he was not that big on spending more money for housing studies. Also expressed the concern that the wall in front of the Congregational Church on Main Street may be an issue in the future.

Jane Audrey-Neuhauser stated that her priorities would be for developing something that the town doesn't already have -- something that would really ADD to the town and not as much improving something that the town already has.

Rick Lefferts agreed that we don't need to (and probably shouldn't) plan on spending all of the available funds THIS year – a combination of spending some and saving for the future.

Brendon Chetwynd agreed on a high priority to time sensitive projects that are worthwhile. He also felt that it would be a good idea to put money aside for large money items that might “pop up” that we'd need to act upon quickly. The CPC also needs to look at the relative cost of the project. He also believed that the CPC needs to have an accurate study of some issues before we are ready to spend the money.

The CPC is in general accord that we are not compelled to allocate our entire fund balance in this first year. We will look at our perceptions of priorities, urgencies and town needs.

Town Meeting warrant strategies for presentation of Funding Proposals:

There was a discussion about whether to present separate articles for each proposal or whether to group some together. It was decided that until it is determined which proposals will be given final approval the CPC would not be able to make that decision.

There was a discussion about how the timeline would be implemented to have the final decisions for approval made by the end of January and how/when we would get community input. The CPC needs to determine whether to have “informational sessions” prior to the selection of proposals or after the selection.

The following Timeline of meetings was proposed:

Prior to Nov. 28 -- each CPC member carefully reviews ALL of the final proposals

Nov. 28 – CPC discusses each proposal and raises questions and further need for clarification. Also develops schedule for inviting proponents to meetings.

Dec. 12 – Process & strategy

Jan. 9 – Four or Five proposals will be given final review with the proponents

Jan 23 – Four or Five proposals will be given final review with the proponents

Feb. 13 – Probable final vote – It was pointed out that this date for a final approval vote would still give the CPC time to meet Town Warrant deadlines.

Doug Moore was asked about the reimbursement to Peg Brown and Jane Audrey-Neuhauser for expenses from last Spring. He will look into it yet again and try to move the process along.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Audrey-Neuhauser, Clerk

NEXT MEETING: 7:00pm Dec. 12, 2007 at the Town Building Room 101. (Dave to post meeting notice).